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EXAMINER
VU, PHY ANH TRAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2437	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/567,689	KIKKOJI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	PHY ANH VU	2437	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS,
WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>09 June 2010</u>.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
  closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-9,16 and 17</u> is/are pending in the application.
  4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-9,16 and 17</u> is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
      application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
  Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/7/2010</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
  Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/9/2010 has been entered.

Claim Objections

Claims 9 and 16 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 9 and 16 both depend on claim 17, which is a subsequent claim. Claims 9 and 16 should depend on claims that precede them, not subsequent to them. Therefore, the claim dependency is improper. Appropriate correction is required.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 04/28/2010 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Also, in response to Applicant's argument that Kuriya does not disclose the feature of "a cancellation request including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data", Examiner respectfully disagrees. At least in [0396], Kuriya clearly teaches that the check-in request, which is interpreted to be the recited cancellation request, has the

user ID, the content ID, and the device ID. At least the user ID corresponds to the

recited user ID data and the device ID corresponds to the recited apparatus ID data.

As such, a new ground of rejections is set forth in details below.

Examiner Notes

Examiner cites particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied

to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations

are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations

within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is

respectfully requested that, in preparing responses, the applicant fully consider the

references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well

as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

**Claims 1-4, 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as
being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject
matter which applicant regards as the invention.**

Claims 1, and 3 have been found invalid as indefinite because the claims recite

"means for" languages and there is no structure disclosed in the specification. "If there

is no structure in the specification corresponding to the means-plus-function limitation in

the claims, the claims will be found invalid as indefinite." Biomedino, LLC vs. Waters

Technology Corp., 490 F.3d 946, 950 (Fed. Cir. 2007)

Claims 2, 4, 8, and 17 are dependent on claims 1 and 3, and therefore inherit the

35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph issues of their independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Kuriya et al (US 2001/0056404 A1, hereinafter Kuriya), Nakada

et al. (US 2002/0157104 – hereinafter Nakata), Crane et al. (US Patent 6,510,236 –

hereinafter Crane), and Natsuno et al (US 2002/0194474 A1, hereinafter Natsuno).

Regarding claim 1, Kuriya discloses an information-processing apparatus

comprising:

receiving means for receiving, in a ticket request, service ID data designating a

specific service to be provided, together with user ID data and apparatus ID data

(*Paragraphs [0034][0237] – wherein the request for purchasing a content corresponds*

to the recited ticket request and the content ID corresponds to the recited service ID

data, the user ID corresponds to the recited user ID data, and the device ID

corresponds to the recited apparatus ID data), and for receiving a cancellation request

including the user ID data and apparatus ID data from the external apparatus (*[0267];*

[0396] – *wherein at least the check-in request corresponds to the recited cancellation*

request – wherein the user ID and device ID are attached to the check-in request as

described in [0396]);

storage means for storing the user ID data and the service ID data, in an

association with the apparatus ID data, which identifies the external apparatus and

which has been registered (*[0034] [0044] [0069] [0420], Figs. 18-20*);

deleting means for deleting, from the storage means, the apparatus ID data when

the receiving means receives: from the external apparatus, the cancellation request

requesting a deletion of the apparatus ID data (*[0324]; step S4206 of Fig. 17; step*

S11206 of Fig. 33).

Kuriya further discloses the deleting means deletes the apparatus ID as the last

step after updating usage conditions (*step S4206 is performed after step S4205 of Fig.*

17; step S11206 is performed after step S11205 of Fig. 33).

However, Kuriya does not disclose deleting means for deleting, from the storage

means, the service ID data before deleting the apparatus ID, when the receiving means

receives: from the external apparatus, the cancellation request requesting a deletion of

the apparatus ID data, and for producing a result of an authentication based on the user

ID data and the apparatus ID data upon a reception of the ticket request; and

transmitting means for transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response

to the reception of the ticket request, based on the result of the authentication based on

the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for transmitting, to the external

apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting means has finished deleting the apparatus ID data upon the deletion.

Nakada discloses an usage updating step performed by a deleting means for deleting service ID from a storage means *([0119] - wherein a content is deleted in response to a request to stop subscription to the content)*.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Nakada into the apparatus taught by Kuriya in order to fully update the record by deleting unnecessary information that is no longer needed.

However, Kuriya and Nakada do not disclose deleting means for producing a result of an authentication based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data upon a reception of the ticket request; and

transmitting means for transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the reception of the ticket request, based on the result of the authentication based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for transmitting, to the external apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting means has finished deleting the apparatus ID data upon the deletion.

Crane discloses means for producing a result of an authentication based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data upon a reception of the ticket request *(column 2, lines 28-38; column 3, lines 5-14; column 5, lines 14-37 - wherein the server produces an authentication result based on the user ID and apparatus ID data submitted)*; transmitting means for transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the

reception of the ticket request, based on the result of the authentication based on the

user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for transmitting, to the external apparatus

(column 2, lines 28-38; column 3, lines 5-14; column 5, lines 14-37 - wherein the

authorization token corresponds to the recited ticket, in response to the reception of

authentication request , the token is sent out based on the authentication result based

on the user ID and apparatus ID data submitted).

   One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have

been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Crane into the apparatus taught by

Kuriya and Nakada in order to make sure that the unauthorized user and apparatus be

detected and prevented from accessing the system.

   However, Kuriya, Nakada, and Crane do not disclose transmitting means for

transmitting, to the external apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the

deleting means has finished deleting the apparatus ID data upon the deletion.

   Natsuno discloses transmitting means for transmitting, to an external apparatus,

deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting means has finished deleting (

[0130] [0139-0140], wherein a deletion completion notice is shown on the display of the

mobile terminal).

   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to modify the teachings of Natsuno into the apparatus taught by

Kuriya, Nakada, and Crane in order to notify user of the transaction completion, thus

enhancing the user interface (*Natsuno: [0139]).*

Regarding claim 2, Kuriya also discloses the information-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the external apparatus identified by the apparatus ID data stored in the storage means in association with the service ID data (*Paragraphs [0259] [0262] [0267]*), is requested to provide the service (*Paragraph[0034] [0237]*).

Regarding claim 5, Kuriya discloses a communication method for use in an information-processing apparatus, the communication method comprising:

receiving, in a ticket request from an external apparatus, service ID data designating a specific service to be provided, together with user ID data and apparatus ID data identifying the external apparatus (*Paragraphs [0034][0237] – wherein the request for purchasing a content corresponds to the recited ticket request and the content ID corresponds to the recited service ID data, the user ID corresponds to the recited user ID data, and the device ID corresponds to the recited apparatus ID data*).

storing, in the information-processing apparatus, the user ID data and the service ID data, in an association with one another (*[0034] [0044] [0069] [0420], Figs. 18-20*);

receiving a cancellation request including the user ID data and apparatus ID data from the external apparatus *([0267]; [0396] – wherein at least the check-in request corresponds to the recited cancellation request – wherein the user ID and device ID are attached to the check-in request as described in [0396])*;

deleting means for deleting, from the information-processing apparatus, with a processor of the information-processing apparatus, the apparatus ID data upon the reception of the cancellation request *([0324]; step S4206 of Fig. 17; step S11206 of Fig. 33)*.

Kuriya further discloses deleting the apparatus ID as the last step after updating usage conditions from the information-processing apparatus *(step S4206 is performed after step S4205 of Fig. 17; step S11206 is performed after step S11205 of Fig. 33)*.

However, Kuriya does not disclose authenticating, upon the receiving, the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an authentication result; deleting the service ID data before deleting the apparatus ID; transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the receiving, based on the authentication result based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and transmitting, to the external apparatus, upon the deleting, deletion-complete information indicating that the apparatus ID data has been deleted.

Nakada discloses a usage updating step for deleting service ID from a storage means *([0119] - wherein content is deleted in response to a request to stop subscription to the content)*.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Nakada into the method taught by Kuriya in order to fully update the record by deleting unnecessary information that is no longer needed.

However, Kuriya and Nakada do not disclose authenticating, upon the receiving, the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an authentication result; transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the receiving, based on the authentication result based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and

transmitting, to the external apparatus, upon the deleting, deletion-complete information indicating that the apparatus ID data has been deleted.

Crane discloses means authenticating, upon the receiving, the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an authentication result *(column 2, lines 28-38; column 3, lines 5-14; column 5, lines 14-37 - wherein the server produces an authentication result based on the user ID and apparatus ID data submitted)*; transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the receiving, based on the authentication result based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data *(column 2, lines 28-38; column 3, lines 5-14; column 5, lines 14-37 - wherein the authorization token corresponds to the recited ticket, in response to the reception of authentication request , the token is sent out based on the authentication result based on the user ID and apparatus ID data submitted)*.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Crane into the method taught by Kuriya and Nakada in order to make sure that the unauthorized user and apparatus be detected and prevented from accessing the system.

However, Kuriya, Nakada, and Crane do not disclose transmitting, to the external apparatus, upon the deleting, deletion-complete information indicating that the apparatus ID data has been deleted.

Natsuno discloses transmitting, to an external apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting has finished deleting (*[0130] [0139-0140], wherein a deletion completion notice is shown on the display of the mobile terminal*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Natsuno into the method taught by Kuriya, Nakada, and Crane in order to notify user of the transaction completion, thus enhancing the user interface of the method (*Natsuno: [0139]*).

Claim 6 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 5 above.

Claim 7 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 8, Kuriya and Natsuno also disclose the transmitting means transmits a request corresponding to the service ID data to a different external apparatus after the service ID data is deleted from the storage means and before the apparatus ID data is deleted from the storage means (*Kuriya: step S4205 of Fig. 17; Natsuno: Figs. 29, 30*).

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, and Natsuno, and further in view of Flanagin et al (US 6,128,661, hereinafter Flanagin).

Regarding claim 3, Kuriya discloses an information-processing system, comprising:

an information-processing apparatus having,

receiving means for receiving, in a ticket request, service ID data designating a specific service to be provided, together with user ID data and apparatus ID data (*Paragraphs [0034][0237] – wherein the request for purchasing a content corresponds to the recited ticket request and the content ID corresponds to the recited service ID*

data, the user ID corresponds to the recited user ID data, and the device ID

corresponds to the recited apparatus ID data), and for receiving a cancellation request

including the user ID data and apparatus ID data from the external apparatus *([0267];*

[0396] – wherein at least the check-in request corresponds to the recited cancellation

request – wherein the user ID and device ID are attached to the check-in request as

described in [0396]);

storage means for storing the user ID data and the service ID data, in an

association with the apparatus ID data, which identifies the external apparatus and

which has been registered *([0034] [0044] [0069] [0420], Figs. 18-20)*;

deleting means for deleting, from the storage means, the apparatus ID data when

the receiving means receives: from the external apparatus, the cancellation request

requesting a deletion of the apparatus ID data *([0324]; step S4206 of Fig. 17; step*

S11206 of Fig. 33);

and the external apparatus having data-transmitting means for transmitting, in

the ticket request, the user ID data, the apparatus ID data and the service ID data to the

information-processing apparatus *(Paragraphs [0034][0043]][0237], wherein another*

mobile telephone or device associated with the same user as shown at least in Figs. 8

and 15, which corresponds to the recited another external apparatus transmits a

request for purchasing a content to manager server. The request includes user ID,

apparatus ID and service ID), ID data storage means for storing the apparatus ID data

(Fig. 14, element S3107; Fig. 17, element S4109, wherein the stored content is

associated with user ID, apparatus ID, and service ID), deletion-request transmitting

means for transmitting the cancellation requesting for the deletion *([0267]; [0396]; Fig. 33, element S11106)*.

Kuriya further discloses the deleting means deletes the apparatus ID as the last step after updating usage conditions *(step S4206 is performed after step S4205 of Fig. 17; step S11206 is performed after step S11205 of Fig. 33)*.

However, Kuriya does not disclose authentication means for performing an authenticating process in accordance with the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an authentication result upon a reception of the ticket request, deleting means for deleting, from the storage means, the service ID data before deleting the apparatus ID, when the receiving means receives: from the external apparatus, the cancellation request requesting a deletion of the apparatus ID data, and

transmitting means for transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the reception of the ticket request, based on the authentication result in accordance with the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for transmitting, to the external apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting means has finished deleting the apparatus ID data upon the deletion, and

the external apparatus having an ID data deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID stored and completion-information receiving means for receiving the deletion-complete information, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authenticating process.

Nakada discloses an usage updating step performed by a deleting means for deleting service ID from a storage means *([0119] - wherein a content is deleted in response to a request to stop subscription to the content)*.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Nakada into the system taught by Kuriya in order to fully update the record by deleting unnecessary information that is no longer needed.

However, Kuriya and Nakada do not disclose authentication means for performing an authenticating process in accordance with the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an authentication result upon a reception of the ticket request; and

transmitting means for transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the reception of the ticket request, based on the result of the authentication based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for transmitting, to the external apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting means has finished deleting the apparatus ID data upon the deletion, and

the external apparatus having an ID data deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID stored and completion-information receiving means for receiving the deletion-complete information, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authenticating process.

Crane discloses authentication means for performing an authenticating process in accordance with the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an

authentication result upon a reception of the ticket request *(column 2, lines 28-38;*

column 3, lines 5-14; column 5, lines 14-37 - wherein the server produces an

authentication result based on the user ID and apparatus ID data submitted);

transmitting means for transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the

reception of the ticket request, based on the authentication result in accordance with the

user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for transmitting, to the external apparatus

(column 2, lines 28-38; column 3, lines 5-14; column 5, lines 14-37 - wherein the

authorization token corresponds to the recited ticket, in response to the reception of

authentication request , the token is sent out based on the authentication result based

on the user ID and apparatus ID data submitted).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have

been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Crane into the system taught by Kuriya

and Nakada in order to make sure that the unauthorized user and system be detected

and prevented from accessing the system.

However, Kuriya, Nakada, and Crane do not disclose transmitting means for

transmitting, to the external apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the

deleting means has finished deleting the apparatus ID data upon the deletion, and the

external apparatus having an ID data deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID

stored and completion-information receiving means for receiving the deletion-complete

information, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authenticating

process.

Natsuno discloses transmitting means for transmitting, to an external apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting means has finished deleting (*[0130] [0139-0140], wherein a deletion completion notice is shown on the display of the mobile terminal*) and an external apparatus having completion-information receiving means for receiving the deletion-complete information, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authenticating process (*[0139]*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Natsuno into the apparatus taught by Kuriya, Nakada, and Crane in order to notify user of the transaction completion, thus enhancing the user interface (*Natsuno: [0139]*).

Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, and Natsuno do not disclose an ID data deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID stored.

However, Flanagin discloses deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data stored (*Col. 11, lines 59-67; Col. 12, lines 2-18, wherein the device name which corresponds to the apparatus ID data can be changed by the user, which implies there exists a deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID in order to change its name*)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Flanagin into the system of Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, and Natsuno because it would provide for the purpose of having a unique apparatus ID that does not correspond to any other partnership on the device that it comes into communication with (*Col. 12, lines 7-18*).

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, and Flanagin et al (US 6,128,661, hereinafter Flanagin), and further in view of Takeuchi (US 2003/0134615 A1).

Regarding claim 4, see the teachings of Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, and Flanagin as discussed in claim 3 above. However, Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, and Flanagin do not disclose

the information-processing apparatus has authenticating means issuing an authentication session ID that identifies a session with the external apparatus.

the transmitting means transmits the authentication session ID to the external apparatus,

the external apparatus transmits the service ID data, together with the authentication session ID received from the information-processing apparatus,

the information-processing apparatus verifies the authentication session ID received, and issues the ticket corresponding to the service ID data received,

the data-transmitting means transmits a service-requesting signal to a server which provides the service, together with the authentication ticket received, the service-requesting signal requesting that the server should provide the service.

However, Takeuchi discloses

the information-processing apparatus has authenticating means issuing an authentication session ID that identifies a session with the external apparatus

(*Paragraphs [0017] [0071], wherein access key which corresponds to session ID is transmitted to external apparatus*),

the transmitting means transmits the authentication session ID to the external apparatus (*Paragraphs [0017] [0071], wherein access key which corresponds to session ID is transmitted to external apparatus*),

the external apparatus transmits the service ID data, together with the authentication session ID received from the information-processing apparatus (*Paragraphs [0017] [0071] [0074] wherein external device transmits service requested (corresponds to service ID data) along with access key received to service provision server*),

the information-processing apparatus verifies the authentication session ID received, issues the ticket corresponding to the service ID data received (*Paragraphs [0018] [0075], wherein when receives access key from external apparatus, service provision server verifies that key matches with key from issuance server, if they match, service provision server issues an information for providing service, which corresponds to authentication ticket),*

the data-transmitting means transmits a service-requesting signal to a server which provides the service, together with the authentication ticket received, the service-requesting signal requesting that the server should provide the service (*Paragraphs [0017][0071][0074][0083], wherein the service user receives service after the service provider performed verification*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Takeuchi into the system of Kuriya Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, and Flanagin because it would provide for the purpose of providing a simplified steps of authentication to users, to prevent unauthorized access by performing reliable authentication.

Claims 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, and Natsuno, and further in view of Halen et al. (WO 03/028283 – hereinafter Halen).

Regarding claim 17, see the teachings of Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, and Natsuno as discussed in claim 1 above. However, Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, and Natsuno do not teach the ticket includes time data representing a time of the authentication.

However, Halen discloses the transmitting means transmits a ticket to the external apparatus based on the result of the authentication (*p. 9, lines 11-21*), the ticket including time data representing a time of the authentication (*p. 8, lines 15-25*).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Halen into the information-processing apparatus disclosed by Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, and Natsuno in order to detect replay attacks, i.e. attempt to use an old authenticated result several times, which may be harmful to the system (*Halen, p. 8, lines 23-25*).

Regarding claim 16, Halen also discloses the deleting means confirms, based on the time data, an authenticity of the ticket, upon a reception of the ticket by the receiving means (*p. 8, lines 15-25, p. 9, lines 11-21*).

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, and Halen, and further in view of Takeuchi and Kunigita (US 2003/0078723 – hereinafter Kunigita).

Regarding claim 9, see the teachings of Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, and Halen as discussed in claim 17 above.

Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, and Halen do not disclose the deleting means compares the ticket with a ticket received by the receiving means, and the deleting means generates authentication-error information when the ticket received by the receiving means is not received within a predetermined term from the time of the authentication.

Takeuchi discloses means for comparing a ticket with a ticket received by the receiving means (*Paragraphs [0018] [0075], wherein when receives access key from external apparatus, service provision server verifies that key matches with key from issuance server, if they match, service provision server issues an information for providing service which corresponds to authentication ticket*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Takeuchi into the system of Kuriya Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, and Halen because it would provide for the purpose of providing a simplified steps of authentication to users, to prevent unauthorized access by performing reliable authentication.

Kuriya, Nakada, Crane, Natsuno, Halen, and Takeuchi do not disclose the deleting means generates authentication-error information when the ticket received by

the receiving means is not received within the predetermined term from the time of the
authentication.

However, Kunigita discloses generating authentication-error information when
the authentication-session ID received by the receiving means is not received within the
predetermined term from the time of the authentication (*i.e: [0059] [0060]*).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have
been motivated to incorporate generating authentication-error information disclosed by
Kunigita into the deleting means in the system disclosed by Kuriya, Nakada, Crane,
Natsuno, Halen, and Takeuchi in order to enhance the user interface of the system by
providing a means for user to be notified of the status of the authentication process.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to PHY ANH VU whose telephone number is (571)270-
7317. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thr 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number
for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/PHY ANH VU/
Examiner, Art Unit 2437

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2437